

MINUTES

Fairfax County School Board

Burkholder Administrative Center

Work Session No. 32/Instruction, Special Services & Youth Development

Jan. 23, 2006

MEETING OPENING

32.02 Call to Order and Announcements

Instruction, Special Services & Youth Development Committee Chairman Kathy Smith convened the meeting in public session at 10:05 a.m. with the following Board members present:

Catherine Belter (Springfield)
Brad Center (Lee)
Stuart Gibson (Hunter Mill)
Stephen M. Hunt (At Large)
Kaye Kory (Mason; ABSENT)
Ilryong Moon (At Large)

Phil Niedzielski-Eichner (Providence)
Janet S. Oleszek (At Large)
Kathy Smith (Sully)
Daniel G. Storck (Mount Vernon; arr. 10:25 a.m.)
Jane Strauss (Dranesville)
Tessie Wilson (Braddock)

Also present were Division Superintendent Jack Dale; Deputy Superintendent Brad Draeger; Clerk of the School Board Pam Goddard; Deputy Executive Assistant Linda Sabo; Administrative Assistant Dianna DiPasquale; Assistant Superintendent for Accountability Pat Murphy; Assistant Superintendent for Cluster VII Lillian Lowery; Rocky Run Middle School Principal Dan Parris; Chief Information Officer Maribeth Luftglass; and certain other individuals. Student representative to the School Board Samantha Kunkel was absent.

DISCUSSION

32.03 No Child Left Behind Update (Exhibit A)

- Discussion about the number of students who missed making adequate yearly progress (AYP); the amount of free tutoring provided to those students; whether or not students traveled to their tutors; the costs to transport the students to tutoring; and the mechanisms used to notify parents of the availability of tutoring;
- the benefits of using pencil and paper to practice testing (helped students develop stamina) as opposed to using on-line testing (took labs away from instructional use; large investment involved); and the frequency of testing was discussed; and
- the benefits of having instructional coaches present at the schools and the use of Benchmark Assessment Resource Tool (BART) as an effective tool for teachers was highlighted.

Fairfax County School Board

Work Session No. 32/Instruction, Special Services & Youth Development

Jan. 23, 2006

2

32.04 School Improvement Planning Process (Exhibit B)

- The Rocky Run Middle School 'team' presented their school improvement plan and the process involved in developing it;
- Read 180 was used as an intervention and not an elective course; remediation for at-risk students, reading assessments, the Gates-MacGinitie reading test, strategic planning, and the definition of Lexile were all discussed;
- methods used to get more parents engaged included orientation, back to school fair, day and night coffees, PTA meetings, and using a web page; and
- Board members were impressed with the procedures and the outcomes.

32.05 2007 Technology Plan (Exhibit C)

- Student Amy Feuerberg (a former Easter Seals ambassador), her mother, and William Reeder, coordinator of Integrated Technology Services, demonstrated the virtues of Amy's communication device, an MT4 made by Dynabox Technology, and how assistive technology had helped her as an FCPS student;
- student was most comfortable with the MT4 as it allowed her to ask her own questions and had changed people's attitudes towards her;
- question about what happened to their communication devices after the students graduated; response that they remained the property of FCPS; that the number of students currently served by some type of assistive technology was over 2,000; and
- decision that, due to time constraints, the presentation of the 2007 technology plan be referred to the Resource Management Work Session later in the day.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 12:35 p.m.